

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) ~~Adhesive~~ An adhesive die-cut article having an external contour comprising an adhesive layer with an internal cut-out having a contour, wherein the external contour of the adhesive die-cut article has no common point with the contour of the internal cut-out, a matrix layer having an internal cut-out which is congruent with the internal cut-out in the adhesive layer, said matrix layer being a compacted material, and a covering film covering the composite of matrix layer, adhesive layer, and internal cut-out, wherein the internal cut-out is filled with filler material containing a pharmaceutical active ingredient selected from the group consisting of salicylic acid, lactic acid, 5-fluoruracil, capsaicin, acetyl-salicylic acid, and nonoic acid vanillyl amide.
2. (currently amended) ~~Adhesive~~ The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, further comprising a detachable protective film.
3. (currently amended) ~~Adhesive~~ The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein the internal cut-out has a circular shape.
4. (currently amended) ~~Adhesive~~ The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein the internal cut-out has a rectangular shape.
5. (currently amended) ~~Adhesive~~ The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of the adhesive layer and of the matrix layer in sum are less than the maximum extent of the internal cut-out in longitudinal or transverse direction.
6. (currently amended) ~~Adhesive~~ The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein said filler material is selected from the group consisting of liquid, semi-solid, gel-like, pasty, powdery and fusible materials and mixtures thereof.

7. (currently amended) ~~Adhesive~~ The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer comprises a natural or synthetic polymer selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polyisobutylenes, silicones, rubber and SIS block copolymers.

8. (currently amended) ~~Adhesive~~ The adhesive die-cut article according to claim 1, wherein the matrix layer comprises a natural or synthetic polymer selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polyethylenes, polypropylenes, polybutylenes, polyurethanes, poly-1-butenes, polyisobutene, rubbers, silicone rubbers, cellulose, chemical pulp, paper, cotton, acetylcellulose, celluloid, viscose, polyacrylonitrile, polyvinylalcohol, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl ether, and ethylene-vinyl acetate (EVA) copolymers.

9. (canceled)